

Work Session Meeting Minutes September 22, 2015

A work session of the Hulmeville Borough Council was held on the above date at the Borough Hall, 321 Main Street.

Councilmembers Present: Raymond Johnson, Vice President, Dan Mandolesi, Nick Lodise, Mayor Harris, Debbie Mahon and Judy Coleman

Councilmember's Absent: Thomas Wheeler, President and Dale Walton Jr.

Other's in Attendance: Solicitor Robert DeBias, Secretary Dorothy Omietanski, Fire Marshal Bill Wheeler, Water Authority Board Members Mercy Ingraham, Patricia Taggart, Eric Schmid, Jason McKairnes and Jim Clark.

Guests in Attendance: Max Stoner, authority engineer and Diane McKairnes

Call to Order: Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm; all those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: none

Public Comment Act 537 Plan:

- Mr. Stoner submitted for review draft Act 537 Plan comments from John Swenson P.E. for Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority. Mr. Swenson's comments concerned the proposed inclusion of the Totem Road capacities, the sump pump inspection and lateral inspection programs and the four proposed alternative measures.
- Mr. Stoner also received one comment from Catherine Gauthier from the Bucks County Planning Commission in regards to the draft Act 537 Plan. She stated that her concern was over the possible "disincentives" for property owners to allow inspections of sump pumps and laterals, including necessary repairs.
- It was verbally confirmed by Mr. Mandolesi that the Hulmeville Planning Commission approved the draft Act 537 Plan without any comments and a written report of this will be sent to Mr. Stoner this week for his records.
- Mr. DeBias confirmed with Mr. Stoner that the Act 537 Plan was posted on Hulmeville Borough web site, published twice in the Bucks County Courier Times as well as posted outside of Borough hall. A copy of the receipt for advertising from the Courier Times was given to Mr. Stoner per his request.
- Mr. Stoner does not feel at this point that an extension is necessary and that council should move forward with adopting Act 537 Plan by resolution at the scheduled October 5 council meeting. BCWSA is requesting a four month extension for their submission but have not received approval yet.
- Discussion of comments made by Mr. Swenson and Ms. Gauthier:
 1. Everyone agrees with the recommendation to revise page 7 under Existing and Projected Hydraulic Overload. Everyone agreed to delete the current verbiage and write it so that it refers back to BCWSA. The text should read "overload conditions will be addressed in BCWSA plan".

2. The issue of sump pump and lateral inspection brought up many concerns. Many are concerned with the amount of “push back” that might be received from the community and the threat of law suits that may arise, as these issues have arisen in the past. There is also the question of cost. Who is responsible for the cost of inspections and cost of repair that may need to be made? Ms. Mahon feels the verbiage is not clear and needs to be written in a more concise manner. There is agreement that it is unclear at this time what the main cause of the infiltration and inflow is. Sump pumps are usually the greatest issue and the laterals given their age may be a concern. The main system was inspected two years ago and is in great working order which may also carry through to the laterals but right now that is unknown. Mr. Clark strongly believes that in order for a lateral and sump pump inspection to be successful there needs to be a penalty given for those who refuse inspection. Pennel’s inspections are currently voluntary. Currently BCWSA is looking into the legal rights and ramifications of compelling the inspections. Everyone agrees to insert the wording Mr. Swenson recommends regarding the sump pump inspection program.
3. Mr. Swenson’s third recommendation was not accepted by the group. The water and sewer department is committed to fixing the water infiltration and inflow problems however they only want to do what is necessary, and not spend their funds unnecessarily. Hulmeville’s Act 537 Plan was designed to be a step by step plan. Start with step one which is the flow metering. Collect and analyze the data and then determine the next best step. The borough cannot commit to all the suggestions made in the plan until they collect the data from the meters and see what the data tells them. Mr. Stoner recommends purchasing the meters now before cold weather. Bill Wheeler suggested making voluntary lateral inspections now and hopefully some in the community will comply and that will allow us to start collecting data on how the laterals look. If we get 10 good inspections we can feel better about the overall condition of the laterals. If we get 10 bad inspections then it may be a stronger case to start more inspections. Two suggestions were made regarding inspections. One was complete inspections at the point of sale and the other was to inspect when water meters are updated. Everyone was in agreement to not adapt Mr. Swenson’s recommendation but to stay with the plan of identifying the problem first before committing to the next step. The first step of the plan will be ordering the meters and manhole covers.

Note: A 5 minute recess was taken at 8:50pm and the meeting resumed at 8:55pm.

Solicitor Report:

- RDA Grant – Middletown Township has agreed to cosign for a new fire truck. Langhorne Manor has made a request for Hulmeville to sponsor them for a new police car next year.
- Kiss’s Application – There are some water connection issues, and sewer issues with regards to Kiss Electric’s proposal to tie into the Neshaminy Interceptor. Max Stoner will look into the issues on behalf of the authority and report back to them.
- Snow and Ice Bids – Council will be signing a contract with CDU for snow removal and it will include the sidewalks at the park and borough hall.
- A right to know request by Assets International was received. They are requesting us to submit any checks written by Hulmeville Borough that have not been cashed. Mayor Harris has requested that Mr. DeBias look into whether or not this is a legal request.

Streets:

- The no left turn sign on Main Street was knocked down. Mr. Lodise bolted the sign to the stop sign.
- There were two incidents on Beaver Street between the hours of 1am and 3am which coincides with the closing of the bar. A sign was damaged in one and a back car window was smashed in another. The car window was reported to the Hulmeville Police Department.

MS4 Permit:

- Ms. Mahon has a meeting scheduled with Mario regarding everything that is not currently in the MS4 permit. They will be discussing what will be needed for future permits.
- Ryan Idel, a Boy Scout, will be working on a project in 2015-2016 for MS4 which will give him credit toward an Eagle Scout project.

Storm Water: No report

Mayor:

- Reverend Lorelei's husband passed away, and a service will be held on October 3 at Scottsville UMC.

Old Business:

- Mr. Mandolesi would like to recognize the hard work Mr. Romberger and Daniel Mandolesi Jr. did installing screening around all the fencing at the playground at borough hall. The two men spent roughly 40 hours installing plastic and screening on each side of the fence to prevent weed growth. Ms. Mahon will provide Daniel Mandolesi Jr. a certificate as well as a summary of the volunteer work he completed. Their hard work is greatly appreciated.
- The Hulmeville flea market is this weekend and many people in the community are still planning to sell items at their homes. Police are on duty and will be available to direct traffic.
- Hulmeville received \$3,032 from Neshaminy Shore Club Picnic for amusement tax for the month of July, 2015.

There being no further official business the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm; motion made by Mr. Lodise seconded by Ms. Mahon.

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Omietanski,
Hulmeville Borough Secretary